



MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Data Managers

FROM: Jeffery P. Zaring, Chief of Results and Reform

DATE: September 30, 2010

SUBJECT: ISTAR Participation Fixed; 3% Calculation

With your assistance, we discovered that, for some corporations, ISTAR students were showing up as not eligible to take ISTAR for accountability purposes in the preliminary AYP determinations. This did not affect all corporations, but those affected were listed as not making participation for the special education group and potentially for other student groups. We believe the problem has been fixed. Please recheck the preliminary AYP data for your schools and note that the change in the participation calculation may result in a school meeting the minimum “n” of 30 for a group to be included in performance determinations.

Now that ISTAR data are corrected, we will make the “3%” calculation. Under federal rules, no more than 3% of the students in tested grade levels may be counted as proficient based on ISTAR and IMAST results. This calculation initially applies at the corporation level but can affect schools. We will contact Superintendents of affected corporations with their options.